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The Eric Sevareid Collection

Library of Congress
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Vol. 52, No. 22
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JAMES H. BILLINGTON
Librarian of Congress

441

444

446

On the Cover: Eric Sevareid delivers the news over the Columbia Broadcasting System (CBS) early in his career. *From the Eric Sevareid Collection in the Manuscript Division*

Cover Story: Eric Sevareid was a pioneer whose work, beginning in the early days of broadcasting until his retirement in 1977, made him one of the century's most respected journalists. 444

An Ambassador Comes Calling: British Ambassador Robin Renwick spoke at LC on the post-Cold War world. 439

Gaining Awareness: An assistant secretary of education delivered the Disability Awareness Month keynote address. 441

Traveling Geographer: The Library's exhibition dedicated to the career of geographer Johann Georg Kohl traveled to Bremen, Germany. 442

News from the Center for the Book 446

The *Library of Congress Information Bulletin* is issued biweekly except in August (no issues published) and in December (one issue published) by the Public Affairs Office of the Library of Congress and distributed free of charge to publicly supported libraries and research institutions, academic libraries, learned societies and allied organizations in the United States.

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British-American Relations:
Ambassador Robin Renwick Speaks on 'New World Disorder'

During his Oct. 29 address on "The New World Disorder and How to Survive It," Sir Robin Renwick, Great Britain's ambassador to the United States since 1991, delivered an amusing and scholarly account of notable moments in British-American relations.

The ambassador, whose visit was sponsored by the Library's Humanities and Social Sciences Division and European Division, spoke to a large crowd in the Mumford Room.

Praising the Library for the "extraordinary service" it provides to researchers, he said, "I suspect that not many people make more use of it than I do."

Mr. Renwick referred dismissively to past conflicts between Britain and America as "a sticky patch . . . the result of various misunderstandings. A benevolent British administration sought to increase taxes in order to reduce the deficit," he joked, "rather as you are aiming to do today."

Shortly before assuming his current post, Mr. Renwick studied the achievements of those who had gone before him. He noted that the date of his address was also the 100th anniversary of the first British ambassador's appointment to the United States. "Our first ambassador here was Sir Julian Pauncefort," he said. "His real name was Smith but his father changed it to sound grander when he inherited some property," a wise move, as it turned out; upon hearing it, President Teddy Roosevelt called the name "an asset in itself."

Mr. Renwick then recounted the mixed fortunes of several other British emissaries, among them, the Marquess of Lothian, who, after his arrival in 1940, is alleged to have said, "Well, boys, Britain's broke. What we're after is your money." On his heels came Viscount Halifax, who had little use for American government, describing it as "a disorderly day's rabbit-shooting."

"The Cold War is over. But we live in a world in which almost everything has changed. Having won the Cold War, it still remains to win the peace."

—Robin Renwick

Mr. Renwick looked more favorably on the example set by fellow Scotsman Auckland Geddes, who served during the Prohibition era. "Since the embassy . . . was not 'dry,' this was a period when we had quite exceptional success in attracting senators and congressmen to our functions," Mr. Renwick kidded.

Confusion ensued when Auckland sent six bottles of fine brandy to President Harding, a gift that was intercepted by New York Customs officials. Claiming that the case had been incorrectly labeled, Harding's aide had it sent back to the ambassador at the embassy. "Its arrival was followed by calls from the White House regretting this 'administrative mistake' and saying that they would have a car round to collect it in 10 minutes," Mr. Renwick added. "'Not at all,' said Sir Auckland, who kept the brandy and drank it himself."

Oliver Franks became ambassador in 1948. He learned never to take a reporter's question at face value. When asked by a local radio station what he'd like for Christmas he was "very touched and replied that 'a small box of caramelized fruit would give me the greatest pleasure.' On Christmas Eve, the radio station broadcast the result of its inquiries. Asked what he would like for Christmas, the French Ambassador replied, 'Peace throughout the world.' The Russian Ambassador replied, 'Justice for all oppressed peoples.' There followed the polite voice of Sir Oliver Franks, asking for a box of caramelized fruit," said Mr. Renwick, adding, "I tell this story to demonstrate that Sir Oliver, alone among his colleagues, was not a hypocrite."

Despite these assorted humorous incidents, Mr. Renwick emphasized the importance of the "especially close relationship" between Great Britain and the United States. This relationship since World War II has been manifested in a "uniquely close collaboration between us in defense and national security."

For example, Mr. Renwick cited Gen. Eisenhower's decision to include equal numbers of British and American officers in his headquarters staff during the planning stages for the liberation of Europe. "This was not an arrangement between two allies but a completely integrated command," he said. "When the Allies landed in Normandy in June 1944, 17 British and Commonwealth and 20 American divisions were involved." Mr. Renwick said the two countries' sharing of military

intelligence and nuclear weapons development information at the time were signs of trust and collaboration that have continued to this day. "Two years ago, our alliance once again was put to the test. Gen. Schwarzkopf and his British counterpart—General de la Billiere—planned together the operation that led to the liberation of Kuwait.

According to Mr. Renwick, Great Britain and the United States are inextricably bound, not only by security concerns but also by economic ties. "How does a citizen of this country pass his all-American day?" he asked. "Having checked into his room at the Holiday Inn and changed into his Brooks Brothers shirt, he can wash down his Burger King with Häagen Dazs ice cream. He buys his guns at Smith and Wesson. His wife may buy her lipstick from Elizabeth Arden and, if she is lucky, her jewelry from Faberge, before returning home to relax in her Jacuzzi.

"I am sure that you all know who owns all these great American businesses," he continued. "The answer, of course, is that we do."

He warned that daily worries about economic and social problems may blind people to the importance of global issues, especially when "shielded by the cry . . . that 'the Cold War is over.' But we live in a world in which almost everything has changed. The nations of Eastern Europe are free of Soviet domination—and free also to return to some ancient quarrels suppressed under that ironclad rule. Having won the Cold War, it still remains to win the peace.

"What we are witnessing today is not the end of history but the return of history, and with a vengeance—in the Balkans, in the former Soviet Union and, for that matter, in Somalia."

Mr. Renwick urged those who call for Europe and the United States to take strong military action against the Serbs in the former Yugoslavia "to show some caution and perhaps even a little humility about Bosnia," adding that the British and American public do not appear to support additional military involvement in the region. He reminded his audience that Britain has more than 3,000 troops there who, despite threats from all of the country's warring factions, "have helped to save tens of thousands of Bosnian lives."

But "if we'd delivered a tougher message to the Serbs two years ago, we might have averted much of this trouble."

Mr. Renwick believes that citizens are no longer willing to let their government initiate military action over strictly ideological issues. "In Britain and in the United States, people are prepared to see their sons' lives risked [only] when there is a clear threat to your or our security," he said. "When there is not, the most we can try to do is help to keep the peace, to contain conflicts, and to help alleviate suffering."

"What we are witnessing today is not the end of history but the return of history, and with a vengeance—in the Balkans, in the former Soviet Union and, for that matter, in Somalia."

The ambassador stressed Europe's increasing defense responsibilities. "It is unreasonable to expect the U.S. to go on bearing any burden in defense of its allies. The European allies must move to develop defense cooperation between them." He admitted that the British are sometimes accused of being "reluctant Europeans." Yet he rejected the notion of a "protectionist . . . or fortress Europe," adding that by successfully introducing democratic government and free market economic reforms Eastern European countries such as Poland, Hungary, the Czech Republic and Slovakia can become eligible for membership in the European Community.

Closing, Mr. Renwick said, "You are right to be concerned that your ability to fulfill the role you are called upon to play as leaders of the free world will depend on building up your strength at home.

"But I would warn you against believing that every homespun philosopher—or every philosopher-politician—is a Harry Truman. Harry Truman, let us not forget, was an internationalist. He knew that it is ludicrous to pretend that real security can be found in isolationism—yours or ours. Of course, you have to deal with your domestic problems. We all are struggling with the same problems—inner cities, education, health care, the war against crime and drugs. We have to deal with those problems and with foreign crises and opportunities too.

"For neither history nor foreign policy is going to go away."

—Barbara Bryant

Former Register Returns to Copyright Office

Barbara Ringer, former Register of Copyrights and cochair of the Advisory Committee on Copyright Registration and Deposit (ACCORD), has agreed to serve as acting Register while the Library recruits for a permanent replacement for Ralph Oman, who decided to vacate his position as Register of Copyrights on Nov. 26, earlier than originally announced.

Mary Berghaus Levering, who was previously acting as Register, will remain to assist Ms. Ringer in the management of the Copyright Office.

Disability Awareness Month:
Assistant Education Secretary Gives Keynote Address

Librarians should take the lead in urging schools of library and information sciences to actively recruit disabled students into their programs.

This was one of the major points made by Judith Heumann, assistant secretary of education for special education and rehabilitative services, during her Disability Awareness Month keynote address Oct. 25 at the Library.

"When we look at bringing disabled people into the work force, we are really looking at a civil rights issue," said Ms. Heumann. "Legislation to eliminate physical barriers and employment discrimination is important and necessary, but we need more than just eliminating barriers.

"Disabled children and adults don't know what their options are, and schools have a major responsibility to help them learn what they are. In many cases educational institutions are failing to do this.

"I don't know what the situation is in schools of library and information sciences, but I urge you to ask the educational institutions that serve your profession if they are actively recruiting disabled students and if not, urge them strongly to do so."

She asked her audience to think about the messages disabled persons are getting from the community.

"We must help to alter not only the way society is structured, but how we react to disabled persons," she said.

The more significant a disability appears, the more fearful others become, she said, citing people who are willing to contribute to charity that works to do away with a disability but who do not want to associate with people who are disabled.

Marca Bristo (left), recipient of the Betts award, and Judith Heumann of the Department of Education enjoy a moment together. *Photos by Yusef El-Amin*

"What we need is a commitment for inclusion at every level of society. You can't completely segregate 35 physically disabled kids in a very bad environment in the basement of a school and then throw them out into the work force and expect them to succeed. They must be integrated into the so-called normal world as early as possible and readily accepted as part of it."

In addition to legislatively mandated elimination of barriers and discrimination, disabled persons need positive role models, Ms. Heumann said, suggesting a need for books telling stories of disabled persons who live fulfilling, normal lives.

Ms. Heumann provided an example of just such a person. She contracted polio at the age of 18 months and after graduating from Long Island University in 1969 had to go to court to force the New York public school system to hire her as its first wheelchair-bound teacher. Today she supervises a staff of more than 400 and has a budget of more than $5.25 billion to provide programs for nearly 6 million disabled Americans.

During another Oct. 25 event at the Library, Marca Bristo, founder and chief executive officer of Access Living, a service and activist organization in Chicago, received the Henry B. Betts Quality of Life Award. The award, named in honor of the medical director of the Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago, recognizes outstanding service in behalf of the disabled. It is supported by the Prince Charitable Trusts of Chicago with the Library of Congress as one of its cosponsors.

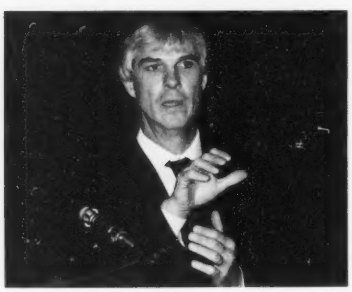
Dr. Billington, in a letter that appeared in the LC employee newspaper, *The Gazette*, marked Disabilities Awareness Month by describing efforts to make the Library's collections more accessible to both readers and staff with disabilities:

"In the Main Reading Room, the Kurzweil Personal Reader synthesizes type into an auditory form, which is read aloud in one of eight digital voices, thus enabling the visually impaired researcher to access the Library's printed books and periodicals. The Computer Catalog Center has a large-screen terminal with a variable font printer as well as two stations designed for wheelchair access. Two librarians, one of whom has taken classes in American Sign Language, serve as liaisons to persons with disabilities. In each of our three main buildings, a closed circuit magnification system is available to access materials from the collections. The Library's orientation film is open-captioned to provide access to the hearing-impaired.

"I am proud of our many dedicated staff members with disabilities, and we are complying with the Americans with Disabilities Act. Last week, the Architect of the Capitol and Information Technology Services installed emergency elevator phones at wheelchair height; instructions for use are in braille. The push of a button will summon help. Elsewhere, special phones and sign language interpreters assist hearing-impaired staffers.

"All of this means progress."

—*Jeanne Smith*



William Haig, LC disability employment program manager, welcomes the audience to the Disability Awareness Month keynote address.

Johann Georg Kohl Exhibition Travels to Bremen, Germany

For the first time, an exhibition of Library materials traveled to Germany, opening Sept. 28.

The Bremen Kunsthalle, the city's leading art museum, hosted the opening of the Johann Georg Kohl exhibition, which had originally been on display at the Library of Congress from March 23 through June 27.

Approximately 100 guests attended the opening reception. That morning, Professor Hans-Albrecht Koch, director of the Bremen State and University Library, and Margrit B. Krewson, German/Dutch area specialist in the Library of Congress with several items from the Bremen State and University Library's Kohl Collection in order to highlight Kohl's interest in Eastern Europe.

"Johann Georg Kohl—Auf den Spuren der Entdecker," was on view in the Kunsthalle until Nov. 7, 1993.

Johann Georg Kohl (1808–1878) was a world traveler, geographer, cartographer, historian, librarian, and German savant, who spent 3½ years (1854–1858) in America studying the cartographic evidence documenting North America since the time of Columbus. Born April 28, 1808, Kohl was the son of a prominent Bremen wine merchant. He

Ronald Grim chats with David Arnett of the U.S. Information Service during the reception at the Bremen Kunsthalle.

European Division, were interviewed on German National Radio. Other LC representatives were Ronald Grim, head of the Geography and Map Division Reading Room, and Gene Roberts, exhibit coordinator and program specialist in the Interpretive Programs Office.

This exhibition, which is almost identical to that mounted at the Library of Congress, was enlarged was noteworthy for his visionary approach to theoretical geography. After his sojourn in North America he returned to Bremen, where he served as director of the city library until his death in 1878.

Ms. Krewson thanked the German sponsors for their cooperation in the preparation of the exhibition, especially Professor Werner Weidenfeld, coordinator for German-

Margrit Krewson makes a point about the Kohl exhibition to Klaus Maurice of the Cultural Foundation of the German States.

American Affairs at the German Foreign Office; Minister Fritjof von Nordenskjoeld, Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany; and Dr. Koch.

The opening of the Bremen exhibition was sponsored by the Theodor-Spitta Society, which is named in memory of the mayor of Bremen who framed the city's democratic constitution. The Spitta Society is headed by Karsten Bahnson and Klaus Wencke.

Dr. Bahnson stressed the close ties between Bremen and the United States and thanked not only the Library but also the United States, for this gesture of goodwill.

David L. Arnett, deputy public affairs officer at the U.S. Information Service, represented the newly appointed U.S. ambassador to Germany, Richard Holbrooke.

Klaus Maurice, secretary-general of the Cultural Foundation of the German States in Berlin, focused in his speech on the cooperation of federal and state agencies together with private initiatives.

The Cultural Foundation of the German States was the major sponsor of this project and the scholarly catalog, *Johann Georg Kohl: Progress of Discovery,* which accompanied the exhibit and was edited by Dr. Koch, Ms. Krewson and John A. Wolter, former chief of LC's Geography and Map Division.

On Oct. 28, 1993, the anniversary of Kohl's death, a memorial plaque was mounted in downtown Bremen on the wall of the Karstadt Department Store which now occupies the site of Kohl's birthplace.

The Kohl exhibition was also shown on German National Television.

Information Bulletin '92 Index Available

Quick: When did the Gorbachevs visit the Library? Who was the keynote speaker at the Hispanic Heritage Month celebration? How did the *Library of Congress Information Bulletin* celebrate its 50th anniversary? You can find answers to all these questions and many, many more when you become the owner of recent indexes to the *Information Bulletin.*

The 1992 *Index* is just off the press and back issues are still available at the following prices:

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If you are interested in tracking major events in the world of libraries and information science, or if you are just interested in having access to the chronicle of LC events, order now.

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Foreign libraries add $4 for shipping and handling. Orders for libraries in the United States and Canada routinely are sent book rate; first class is available for an additional $2.

PUBLICATION

Yearbook for Blind, Handicapped

Friends of Libraries for Blind and Physically Handicapped Individuals of North America Inc. has announced the publication of the first volume of its *International Yearbook of Library Service for Blind and Physically Handicapped Individuals* (ISBN 3-598-23100-8). The *Yearbook,* published by K.G. Saur Verlag, Munich, represents a long-term collaboration among librarians, information service providers and editorial consultants from around the world. The purpose of the publication is to promote a continuing international dia-

(Cont. on p. 445)

Broadcast News:

Sevareid Papers Offer Insight on History

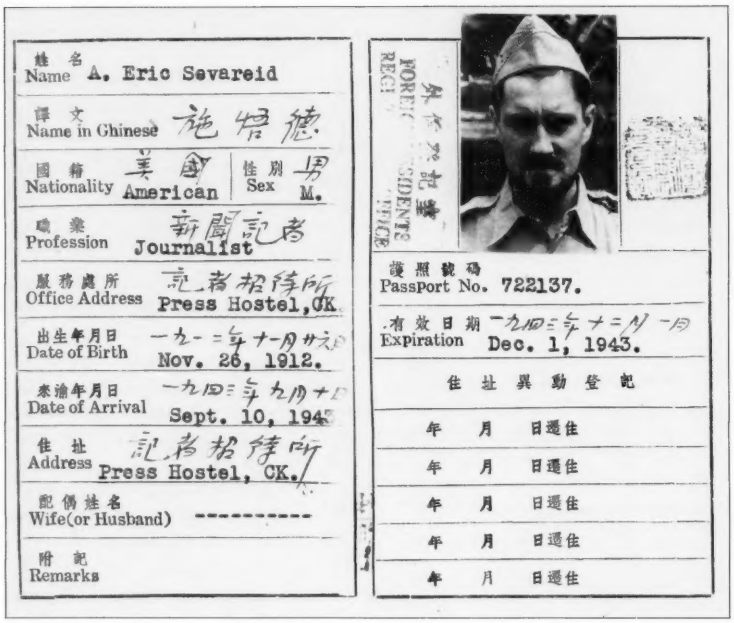
by Craig D'Ooge

Following is one article in an occasional series highlighting the Library's recently acquired or processed collections.

A chance meeting in 1954 at the Statler Hotel eventually led to the acquisition by the Library of Congress of the personal papers of one of the most respected journalists of the 20th century.

of publishing fame, David Mearns, then chief of the Library's Manuscript Division, returned to Washington and promptly sent off a letter requesting his papers.

The journalist replied, in a jocular tone, that the request made him feel "both pleased and half-dead already." But he readily agreed to donate his papers, "if you think they would be of any use for future Ph.D.s with time on their hands."


姓名 Name A. Eric Sevareid
譯文 Name in Ghinese 施培德
國籍 Nationality 美國 American
性別 Sex 男 M.
職業 Profession 新聞記者 Journalist
服務處所 Office Address 記者招待所 Press Hostel, CK
出生年月日 Date of Birth Nov. 26, 1912.
來滬年月日 Date of Arrival Sept. 10, 194
住址 Address 記者招待所 Press Hostel, CK.
配偶姓名 Wife(or Husband) ----------
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護照號碼 Passport No. 722137.
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Eric Sevareid's 1943 Chinese passport. *From Manuscript Division collection*

The man was Eric Sevareid, recently described in the academic review *Lingua Franca* as a combination of Ralph Waldo Emerson and Indiana Jones, with a press pass. Mr. Sevareid died in July of last year.

Having met Sevareid in New York in the company of the Alfred Knopfs

The modesty of this assessment is apparent upon first glance at the inventory of the 21,000 items now in the processed portion of his collection in the Manuscript Division. At least as many items are still being processed.

The headings of the finding aid to the collection read like a chronology of the modern age:

"Broadcasts and notes from China, Sept.–Oct., 1943," "Dispatches from Italy, 1944," and "Cables to CBS, 1944–1945" are some of the earlier headings.

When World War II began, Sevareid "was in the perfect place at the perfect time," according to John Haynes, historical specialist in the Manuscript Division. His good fortune was further augmented by the fact that he recently had jumped from a job with United Press International to that of radio correspondent for the Columbia Broadcasting System. Soon he was known as one of "Murrow's Boys," a reference to broadcasting legend Edward R. Murrow, with whom he worked.

Radio gave Sevareid a crucial edge in getting his war dispatches out first, so much so that he was able to cover the fall of Paris almost up to the arrival of German troops. He later traveled to North Africa, England and Asia as a war correspondent.

The papers include a diary Sevareid kept after bailing out of a plane in Burma in 1943. In a tiny scrawl, he records efforts to bury the copilot, who died in the crash:

"Noon—Col. sends Holland and Signer to help bury co-pilot in parachute sheet," he wrote. "My typewriter melted down," he later noted.

According to Mr. Haynes, the papers are especially interesting because Sevareid was a pioneering broadcast journalist, one of the first who did more than simply read the news on air.

"He was one of the most thoughtful and analytic," Mr. Haynes said. "Many reporters were overwhelmed and confused by the fall of France, for example, but not Sevareid."

Sevareid would record only scripts he had written himself. Much of the collection consists of his copies of such scripts as broadcasts from 1939 to 1976. In the early days of radio

few recordings were made. From this period, Sevareid's copies are often the only record of what was broadcast. The sheer volume and range of subjects are impressive, especially from 1946 to 1959, when his news analyses were broadcast almost daily.

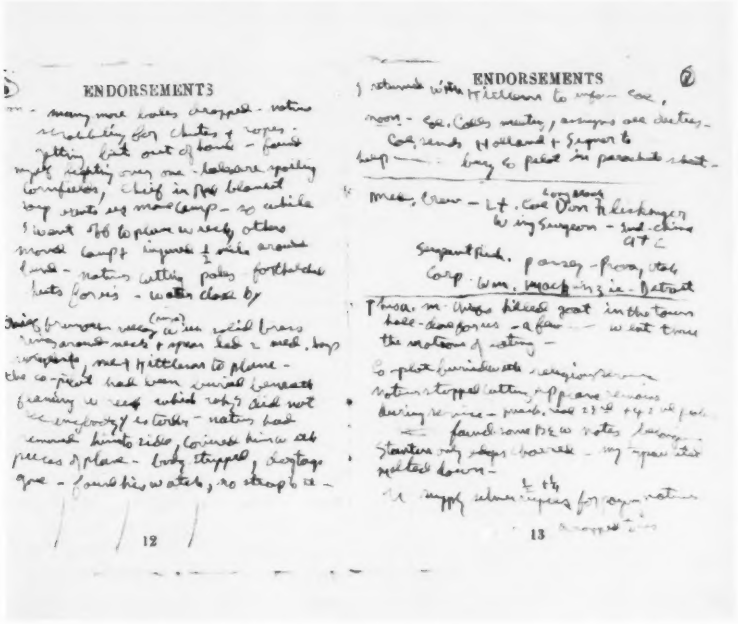
Occupying as many boxes as the scripts is their inevitable consequence: fan mail. Arranged chronologically, like the scripts, this collection provides valuable insight into public opinion on specific issues.

As Sevareid's career progressed from reporting to commentary, he carried on a wide range of correspondence with many influential people. Members of Congress, Cabinet members and other political figures wrote him to explain their views before he had a chance to comment on them. Their letters survive in the collection, along with his replies. There are copies of letters from Adlai Stevenson from 1950 to 1956 and a file of correspondence with Svetlana Allilueva, Joseph Stalin's daughter.

After the war, the subjects Sevareid addressed during his long career range from the founding of the United Nations in 1946 and Thomas Dewey's campaign train in 1948 to the McCarthy hearings, Vietnam, Watergate and the death of Lyndon B. Johnson. He retired in 1977.

"Sevareid was an anomaly, one of the only men in network history who could get away with quoting Edmund Burke and Robert Lowell on the boob tube," William Madison wrote in his article on the collection in *Lingua Franca*. "During his broadcast years, many tried to emulate him, but few succeeded in matching his powers of description and his ability to untangle modern history."

His papers, letters and scripts should continue to offer valuable insights to anyone, with or without a Ph.D., interested in "untangling" history for many years to come.


ENDORSEMENTS

ENDORSEMENTS

Pages from Sevareid's journal describing his activities after parachuting out of a plane in Burma during World War II.

Yearbook *(Cont. from p. 443)*

logue among members of this rapidly changing field.

The Friends of Libraries for the Blind was incorporated as an independent nonprofit organization in 1992 to support and promote the programs of libraries for blind and physically handicapped individuals throughout North America and to support the activities of local Friends groups in the United States.

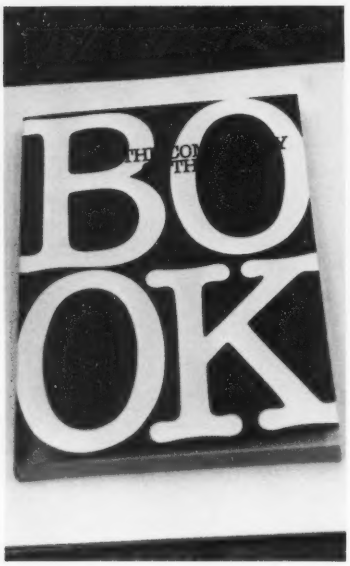
The concept of the Friends group was developed during informal talks among Kenneth Jernigan, executive director of the National Federation of the Blind; Euclid Herie, president and CEO of the Canadian National Institute for the Blind; and Frank Kurt Cylke, director, National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped at LC. Mr. Jernigan and Mr. Herie are among the executive officers of the Friends group.

The *Yearbook's* contents are divided into sections covering perspectives on the field, service, architectural achievements, braille technology, world activities and significant recent bibliography. Forty contributing scholars and editorial consultants represent an international community, responding cooperatively from all five continents.

Among the *Yearbook's* contributors are Thomas J. Martin, acting head, Materials Development Division; and John Cookson, head, Engineering Section, both of the National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped.

The *Yearbook* is available from K.G. Saur Verlag, Ortlerstrasse 8, D–81373 München; fax 089/76902350. The hardbound volume is priced at DM 80.00, approximately $48.40. The *Yearbook* will be available for purchase on cassette and in braille, and will be available in those formats on loan through the network of libraries serving blind and physically handicapped individuals in the United States.

News from the Center for the Book:
Directory of Book and Reading Organizations Published



The Library has just published the third edition of *The Community of the Book: A Directory of Organizations and Programs,* a 149-page guide to national organizations that promote books and reading, administer literacy projects and encourage the study of books and print culture. Current information about 109 organizations, ranging alphabetically from ACTION to the Women's National Book Organization, is included. The volume is both a source of current information and a description of good ideas for promoting books, reading and libraries.

A project of the Center for the Book, it was compiled by center Program Officer Maurvene D. Williams and edited by its director, John Y. Cole, who also contributed an introductory essay, "Is There a Community of the Book?" It includes a seven-page appendix describing additional organizations and resources and an index.

The Community of the Book: A Directory of Organizations and Programs is available from the Library of Congress Sales Shop or by mail from the Publishing Office, Box J, Library of Congress, Washington, DC 20540–8620. The price is $8.95. Add $3.50 per order (one to four copies) if ordering by mail. Credit card orders may be placed by phone; call (202) 707–6095 to place orders or for more information.

☐ **Revolutions in Knowledge.** Is the limited-length encyclopedia a dinosaur in the electronic age? Does a political system dominated by fax messages from special-interest groups doom reasoned debate and the concept of a knowledge-based democracy? These were two of the questions discussed on Oct. 27 at a Center for the Book colloquium that

Rep. Patricia Schroeder

featured Rep. Patricia Schroeder (D-Colo.); historian Elizabeth Eisenstein, author of *The Printing Press as an Agent of Change;* and Richard W. Bulliet, director of the Middle East Institute at Columbia University, novelist and author of the forthcoming book *The View from the Edge: Religious Authority and Islamic Society.*

The program, "From Gutenberg to William Gibson: Revolutions in Knowledge from the Renaissance into the Twenty-First Century," was cosponsored with Columbia Univer-

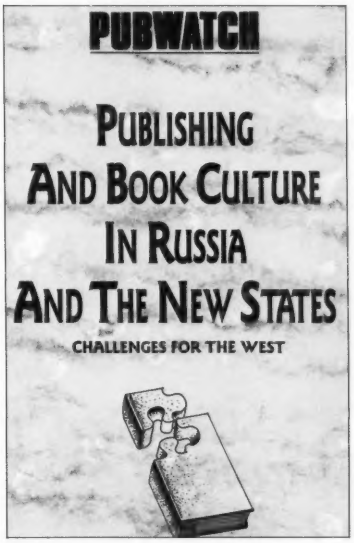
Richard Bulliet and Elizabeth Eisenstein discussed 'revolutions in knowledge' Oct. 27. *Photos by Yusef El-Amin*

sity Press and the Houghton Mifflin Co. and marked the publication of the fifth edition of The Columbia Encyclopedia, for which Dr. Bulliet served as chief consultant on history. The Center for the Book plans to publish a booklet based on the presentations.

☐ **Book Development in Russia and the Newly Independent States.** On Nov. 2 at the World Bank, the Center for the Book and PUBWATCH sponsored the second meeting of the "Task Force on Book Development in Russia and the Newly Independent States," a group that grew out of a workshop held at the Library of Congress in March 1993 and that met for the first time on July 20 at LC (see LC *Information Bulletin,* Sept. 6, 1993).

The 45 participants, who represented government agencies, foun-

dations, publishers and other private sector groups, discussed programs under way and talked about possibilities for new projects and partnerships. The discussion focused



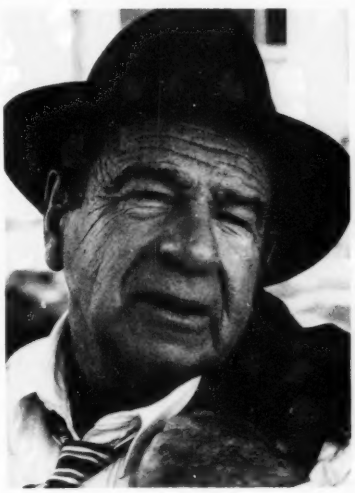
on: textbook development, library initiatives, publisher education and training, book selling, distribution and production, rights initiatives, initiatives in copyright and the fight against piracy. Library of Congress representatives were: John Y. Cole, Harry Leich, Ralph Oman, Eric Schwartz, and Irene B. Steckler.

For a detailed report on the Task Force's July 20 meeting and further information, write or call PUBWATCH, 35 W. 67th Street, New York, NY 10023; telephone (212) 362-4618.

☐ **"Language of the Land" Exhibition Reception.** The LC Poetry and Literature Center and the Center for the Book cosponsored a reception on Nov. 4 to celebrate the opening of "Language of the Land: Journeys into Literary America," the exhibition on view in the foyer of the Madison Building through Jan. 17, 1994. The reception followed a reading by Rick Bass, Joshua Henkin and Rosa Shand, authors of three of the Syndicated Fiction Project's 1992 Annual Best Short Stories. The "Language of the Land" exhibition was made possible by a grant to the Center for the Book from the Lila Wallace-Reader's Digest Fund, with additional support from the Library's James Madison Council.

☐ **"Read More About It."** Now in its 14th year, "Read More About It," the Library of Congress/CBS Television Book project, is the center's best-known promotion. Since 1979 the center has furnished CBS Television with more than 300 reading lists that have been broadcast with major CBS programs.

On Oct. 16 more than 15 million Americans saw announcer Pat O'Brien's 30-second reading-promotion message following the first game of the 1993 World Series. Mr. O'Brien urged viewers to go to their local libraries or bookstores to obtain books about baseball and the World Series; the titles mentioned



Walter Matthau

on the air were *Once More Around the Park: A Baseball Reader,* by Roger Angell, and *The History of the World Series,* by Gene Schoor.

Following "Man from Left Field," aired on CBS on Oct. 15, singer-actress Reba McEntire suggested viewers consult two titles: *The Developing Father: Emerging Roles in Contemporary Society,* by Bryan E. Robinson and Robert L. Barret, and *The Father Book,* by Frank Minirth, Brian Newman and Paul Warren.

One of the next fall's "Read More About It" announcements will be presented by Walter Matthau following the program "A Family Secret: Incident in a Small Town," the third in a series that features Mr. Matthau as a small-town lawyer. The books suggested are: *Love and the Law,* by Gail Koff, and *Policing Domestic Violence: Experiments and Dilemmas,* by Lawrence W. Sherman.

LC in the News

The Library's receipt of the Leonard Bernstein archives was front-page news in the Nov. 9 *Washington Post.* In "Composer's Papers to Go On Line," writer Joseph McLellan noted that "the estate of Leonard Bernstein has . . . launched a plan to share [his archives] with the world in a new computer-accessible information system."

The project will eventually allow anyone with a home computer and modem to access the material, which includes the original score for "West Side Story," the composer's children's TV concerts and scrapbooks and letters Bernstein collected during his long and prolific career.

That same day, *The New York Times* said that "no archive as extensive and varied as this one has ever been made accessible by electronic means, and the technology being developed to accommodate it will be usable for any archive on any subject."

Associated Press writer Nita Lelyveld quoted Bernstein's daughter, Nina, who remarked that when people look over this massive archives they will ask, "Did this man ever sleep?"

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